ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A method for checking at least three sensors which detect a measured quantity in the area of an internal combustion engine. A measure of the sensor signal of the particular sensor to be checked is compared to a reference signal which is obtained from at least one part of the sensor signals of the sensors to be checked. A sensor is recognized as defective on the basis of a comparison of the measure for the sensor signal with the reference signal. The reference signal is formed, for example, from a mean value of a measure of the sensor signals of at least one part of the sensors to be checked, the individual sensor signals being weighted using correction factors in forming the mean value. The sensors are temperature sensors or pressure sensors, for example, which may be situated in an intake area of the internal combustion engine, on the internal combustion engine itself, in an exhaust area, and/or in an exhaust gas treatment system.